

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
APRIL 21, 2005

**ITEM 6**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOCATE \$1.8 MILLION FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO FUND POSITIONS AUTHORIZED FOR BROWNFIELDS INVESTIGATIONS IN THE SPILLS, LEAKS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND CLEANUP (SLIC) PROGRAM

**DISCUSSION**

The Water Code allows the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to establish cost recovery programs to pay the expenses of overseeing and approving cleanup efforts by responsible parties (RPs). In 1993 the SLIC Program, Cleanup Oversight element, received funding from the CAA as a means of paying staff oversight costs until such time as the RPs could be billed and the money collected. Since that time, a regular process has existed where the RPs are billed quarterly and their payments reimburse the CAA. Currently the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) are budgeted \$7.9 million to support 48.6 positions for this activity.

This request would increase funding from the CAA for the SLIC Program to support additional positions (PYs) for three purposes. First, the Governor's proposed fiscal year 2005-06 budget includes a California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Site Mitigation and Brownfields Reuse Budget Change Proposal that adds 9.5 PYs to the SLIC Program. Second, the Los Angeles Regional Water Board currently manages two contracts with 2.9 PYs and risk assessment services, one with the Boeing Company and one with the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, which are Brownfields and would be appropriately included under the SLIC umbrella. Relying on separate contracts is far more time consuming to administer for all concerned. Third, there are 0.4 PYs and risk assessment services distributed to three regions under a cost recovery fund source titled "Redevelopment Agency." The activities under this task are brownfields related and would fit under SLIC. Making these changes will streamline the budget tracking process for the Regional Water Boards affected and the State Water Board. The increase necessary to carry out all of these changes to the SLIC Program will be \$1.8 million. This entire allocation would be subject to cost recovery from RPs.

**POLICY ISSUES**

Should the Water Board approve an additional \$1.8 million for the SLIC Program to support Brownfields work identified in the Governor's budget, ongoing Los Angeles Regional Water Board contracts, and the "Redevelopment Agency" task?

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The \$1.8 million for this item is currently available in the CAA as part of the uncommitted balance. The most significant portion, \$1.3 million, will fund the Governor’s proposed fiscal year 2005-06 Budget Change Proposal for Brownfields work.

CAA Uncommitted Balance (SLIC receipts through 2/24/05)	\$8,619,547
Other pending CAA requests	-\$0
Brownfields Investigations (Proposed)	-\$1,800,000
<b>TOTAL REMAINING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$6,819,547</b>

**REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT:**

This item has the support of the Regional Water Boards.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the State Water Board approve the request to increase the SLIC Program funding level by \$1.8 million to support new brownfields work and streamline existing activities performed under contract or the “Redevelopment Agency” task, subject to cost recovery.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2004 -

CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOCATE \$1.8 MILLION FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO FUND POSITIONS AUTHORIZED FOR BROWNFIELDS INVESTIGATIONS IN THE SPILLS, LEAKS, INVESTIGATIONS AND CLEANUP (SLIC) PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. The SLIC Program is important to the effective cleanup of contaminated groundwater throughout the State;
2. The investigation and cleanup of underutilized properties (Brownfields) is a component of Governor Schwarzenegger's Action Plan for California's Environment;
3. A number of the Regional Water Quality Control Boards have large backlogs of sites requiring groundwater cleanup oversight;
4. The Governor's budget for fiscal year 2005-06 proposes to increase the number of staff in the SLIC Program by 9.5 positions;
5. Consolidating closely related programs under the SLIC Program will streamline administrative operations; and
6. Costs for the SLIC Cleanup Oversight program element are recovered from the responsible parties.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Resources Control Board approves an additional \$1.8 million from the Cleanup and Abatement Account for Regional Water Quality Control Board personnel costs and risk assessment work in the SLIC Program.

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 21, 2005.

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Debbie Irvin  
Clerk to the Board